

AIR

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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

HULA- 448

8 April 54

2003

: Chief, Western Hemisphere

: LINCOLN

- Operational
- Request for aerial photo studies

1. Listed below are 5 areas on which interpretation studies from aerial photographs are needed at the earliest possible date.

1. Transportation routes in area enclosed by DF070660 to DF130660 to DF140570 to DF070560. (EEI # 36)
2. Railroad lines between LOS ANGELES and BANAMENA. (EEI # 37)
3. Terrain of area from GUALAN Southeast to DF075440. (EEI # 38)
4. Terrain in area enclosed by CG530470 to CG530520 to CG730520 to CG730470. (probably EEI #40)
5. Trails or roads from:
A) DF655718 to DF570130 (similar to EEI #'s 42 + 43.)
B) DF660695 to DE550225

2. Attachment #1 contains the precise information required. To be answered satisfactorily this attachment should be passed without further deletion to the photo interpreter.

3. The previous aerial photographs request (HULA-322) left LINCOLN on 26 March, was received in WH on 30 March, and as of 5 April 1954, the photo interpreters had just started work on the studies. Expeditious handling of this request is required if the data is to reach LINCOLN in time to be of any operational use. Aerial photographic coverage is the only source which can now supply the data needed for support of the military operations being mounted in these areas. It is therefore imperative that the studies be prepared in the shortest possible time.

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4. Please cable the status of the studies requested in HULA-322.
Also advise by cable the soonest the data requested herein can be forwarded
to LINCOLN.

Jerome C. Dunbar

Attachment: 1, as stated.

JCD/RBR/h
8 April 1954

Distribution:

3 - Washington w/3 attachments
3 - LINCOLN w/1 attachment

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ATTACHMENT #1 to HULA- 448

- (1) Area: Analyze transportation routes (railroads, river, roads, footpaths) in the area enclosed by DF070660 to DF130660 to DF140570 to DF070560.

Determine whether a small military force, approximately 100 foot troops, can prevent movement toward GUALAN from the direction of PUERTO BARRIOS without being bypassed easily.

- (2) Area: Study railroad lines between LOS AMATES and BANANERA.

Determine which rail line is best for troop movement on foot from LOS AMATES to BANANERA during rainy periods. It is estimated that 100 troops will be carrying approximately 125 pounds of equipment each.

- (3) Area: Terrain study of area from GUALAN approximately 15 miles SE to DF075440.

- A. Determine existence of trails or roads giving foot troops and trucks access to GUALAN from DF075440. If trucks cannot reach DF075440 from the direction of GUALAN, locate the point on Zacapa #5, and Zacapa #6 where the vehicular road ends. Indicate if trails exist from these points to DF075440.
- B. Indicate 4 routes (if possible) most suitable for a group of 25 men (carrying 80 pounds equipment each) to proceed on foot from DF075440 toward GUALAN. Locate off trail concealment points (groups of trees, rocky or hilly terrain).
- C. If 4 routes converge, locate nearest area for concealment of 100 men for approximately 24 hours. If 4 routes do not converge locate an assembly point most accessible from the routes. State if assembly point is wooded, rocky or hilly terrain.

- (4) Area: Analyze terrain in area enclosed by CG530470 to CG530520 to CG730520 to CG730470 to determine concealed (off road) routes for 75 troops (carrying 75 pounds of equipment each) to proceed on foot from CG680505 to an assembly area near ASUNCION MITA. Locate most suitable point for concealed assembly of 75 troops.

- (5) Area: Determine existence of trails, roads, or abandoned railroad beds from:

A. DF655718 to DE570130

B. DF660695 to DE550225

Indicate the best route for 100 troops to proceed via foot or muleback (with about 125 pounds of equipment each) from DF655718 to DF570130.

Determine the existence of an alternate route from DF660695 to DF550225.

Compare above routes, indicating any sections not traversable during rainy season.